



9th session of the

MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE WATER CONVENTION

29 September – 1 October 2021 Geneva & Hybrid

High-level segment

Draft programme

Wednesday, 29 September 2021

Hybrid format (Geneva and online) | Central European Time (CET)

10:00–10:45

OPENING

Mr. Ardak Zebeshev, Chair of the Meeting of the Parties, Acting Chair of the Investment Committee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Ms. Kersti Kaljulaid, President of the Republic of Estonia (*tbc*)

Mr. Tõnis Mölder, Minister of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia

Mr. Magzum Mirzagaliev, Minister of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan (*tbc*)

Mr. António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General (*tbc*)

Ms. Olga Algayerova, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and United Nations Under-Secretary-General

Adoption of the agenda

10:45–11:00

PROGRESS IN THE GLOBAL OPENING OF THE WATER CONVENTION

Status of ratification of the Water Convention

Statements by new Parties to the Water Convention

11:00–13:00
and 15:00–16:00

SPECIAL SESSION – WATER AND PEACE

11:00–13:00

Transboundary water cooperation: a catalyst for peace

Moderator: Mr. Danilo Türk, Chair of the **Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace**, former President of the Republic of Slovenia

Panel discussion 1 – Transboundary water cooperation as a key for regional peace and stability
(25 min)

- Mr. Pekka Haavisto, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Republic of **Finland**
- Mr. Jüri Ratas, President of the Parliament, Republic of **Estonia**
- Mr. Serigne Mbaye Thiam, Minister of Water and Sanitation, Republic of **Senegal**
- Mr. Mahdi Rashid Al-Hamdani, Minister of Water Resources, Republic of **Iraq**
- Mr. Abderahim Bireme Hamid, Executive Secretary, **Niger Basin Authority**

High-level interventions from the floor in relation to issues addressed by the panellists (30 min)
(3 minutes per statement)

Panel discussion 2 – The role of the Water Convention in fostering peace (25 min)

- Ms. Cecilia Abena Dapaah, Minister of Sanitation and Water Resources, Republic of **Ghana**
- Mr. Shavkat Khamraev, Minister of Water Resources, Republic of **Uzbekistan**
- Ms. Florika Fink-Hooijer, Director-General, DG Environment, **European Commission**
- Mr. Darío Soto-Abril, Executive Secretary, **Global Water Partnership**
- Mr. Attila Tanzi, Chair of the **Implementation Committee** of the Water Convention

High-level interventions from the floor in relation to issues addressed by the panellists (35 min)
(3 minutes per statement)

13:00–15:00

Lunch break

15:00-16:00

Accelerating progress on transboundary water cooperation to achieve sustainable development

Moderator: *(tbc)*

Efforts to accelerate achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 6

Mr. Gilbert F. Hounbo, President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, Chair of **UN-Water** *(tbc)*

Progress on transboundary water cooperation (SDG indicator 6.5.2 reporting)

Main messages of the “Second report on SDG indicator 6.5.2: Accelerating progress on transboundary water cooperation to achieve Target 6.5”

by Ms. Olga Algayerova, **UNECE** Executive Secretary and United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Ms. Audrey Azoulay, **UNESCO** Director-General *(tbc)*

Panel discussion 3 – Accelerating progress on transboundary water cooperation (25 min)

- Mr. David Choquehuanca Céspedes, Vice President of the Plurinational State of **Bolivia** *(tbc)*
- Mr. Peter Thomson, United Nations Secretary-General's **Special Envoy for the Ocean**
- Ms. Jennifer Sara, Global Director, Water Global Practice, **World Bank**
- Ms. Tatyana Bokova, Deputy Head, Federal Agency for Water Resources, **Russian Federation**

High-level interventions from the floor in relation to issues addressed by the panellists (15 min) (3 minutes per statement)

Conclusions of the high-level Special session

Mr. Tõnis Mölder, Minister of the Environment of the Republic of **Estonia**